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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/809,314	03/24/2004	Richard Fraczek	406-114	6491

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EXAMINER

JOHNSON, BLAIR M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3634

DATE MAILED: 05/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

8

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/809,314	<b>Applicant(s)</b> FRACZEK, RICHARD	
	<b>Examiner</b> Blair M. Johnson	<b>Art Unit</b> 3634	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2005.
- 2a)  This action is FINAL.                      2b)  This action is non-final.
- 3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4)  Claim(s) 1-19 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6)  Claim(s) 1-19 is/are rejected.
- 7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a)  accepted or b)  objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12)  Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    - a)  All    b)  Some \*    c)  None of:
      - 1.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      - 2.  Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
      - 3.  Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- 4)  Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_.
- 5)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

Claims 4,12-14,16 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

On page 7, lines 19-20, it is stated: "Moreover, within each set, the teeth are offset from each other." This is not shown or understood.

In claims 16 and 18, the center portion is said to be further spaced from "a longitudinal axis" of the headrail than the lateral portions. This is not disclosed. The center portion is disclosed as being so further spaced than the "back wall 26", page 5. It is further not disclosed where the longitudinal axis is located.

Claims 6-16 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

There is no antecedent basis for "said clutch", line 16.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-6,10-14 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jelic in view of Baville.

Jelic discloses a head rail 12, pulley 58 having offset teeth 66, end cap 20, and shaft 32,34,48. What is not shown are the flexible projections. However, Baville discloses rubber teeth that are yieldable so as to protect the cable contacting the pulley, page 1, lines 54-60. In view of this teaching, it would have been obvious to modify Jelic to have correspondingly flexible teeth to similarly protect his cord.

Claim 16 is met as best understood in view of the rejection under 112(1) above. The bottom wall 14 has a central "portion" (the middle area) and lateral "portions" (between the "middle area" and the side walls). Read another way, a "portion" of wall 14 is the "center portion" and 15,17, are the lateral portions.

The teeth b of Baville are integral (meaning: "essential or necessary for completeness", The American Heritage Dictionary) with the cylindrical wall and define a projection thereon. They define a space that receives the cord and flex when the cord is engaged therewith to form an "interference" fit.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Jelic.

The head rail is interpreted as above.

#### ***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Art Unit: 3634

Although the term "cantilever" is normally used to describe a horizontal member, the suspended projection being described as a cantilever is within the a broad definition of this term and is accepted.

Applicant lists several differences between the Jelic-Baville combination: first, the projections are integral with the teeth. Since the projections are part of the teeth, this is met. Second, each tooth has single projection. Each tooth b defines a projection. Third, since the projection is rubber, it moves when contacted by the cord. Fourth, the ribs in Baville clearly generate a serpentine channel, Fig. 3.

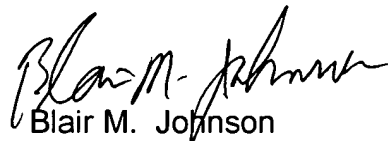
Claims 7-9,15 and 19 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Blair M. Johnson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6830. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Fri., 6:30-3:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Lanna Mai can be reached on (571) 272-6768. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 3634

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

  
Blair M. Johnson  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3634

BMJ  
5/5/05